voluntary organisations; improving quality of services; enhancing child survival; strengthening of information, education and communication; promotion of temporary contraceptive methods etc. No major change in the strategy is contemplated at present.

(c) The outlay for the 7th Five Year Plan under the programme is Rs. 3,256 crores. Outlays during first four years of the Plan are indicated below:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1985-86 | Rs. 500.00 crores |
| 1986-87 | Rs. 530.00 crores |
| 1987-88 | Rs. 585.00 crores |
| 1988-89 | Rs. 600.00 crores |

**Shortage of Blood in Medical Institutions**

119. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to a news item which appeared in the "Times of India" of the 27th June, 1988 to the effect that a large number of medical institutions in the country are being starved of blood thus affecting medical treatment to the patients;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a study has been conducted by the Blood Bank of Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh to locate the places where the shortage of blood is acute; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the report and the study conducted by this institute, the places where such shortage has been reported and what steps are being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) The Government has seen the news item. The main reasons for the shortage of blood in the medical institutions are:

(i) Reluctance for blood donation due to prevelance of erroneous misconception among public.

(ii) Increased demand for blood to increase in population, early detection of diseases due to expansion of health infrastructure and availability of specialised facilities like Neurosurgery, Cardiothoracic surgery etc.

It has been estimated that there is about 50 per cent shortage of blood to the total requirements.

(c) The Government has not received the Study Report.

(d) Does not arise.

It is however stated that during the current Plan period, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is already implementing a Scheme on Development and Modernisation of Blood Banking and Blood Transfusion services with a view to meeting the requirements of blood in the country. The provision for the scheme during the current Plan is Rs. 5 crores.

**Raising the speed of trains**

120. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in 'The Hindustan Times' dated 29th June, 1988 to the effect that Research, Design and